Syllabus of the Malayalam Middle School Examination.

103. *Mr. K. Shahul Hameed (*Trivandrum and Nedumangad* cum *Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state why they have taken away Arabic from the syllabus of the Malayalam Middle School Examination?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon: The syllabus for the Malayalam Middle School examination was revised and the optional subjects were abolished. Arabic which was an optional subject has therefore ceased to exist as an examination subject; but its teaching as a non-examination subject is continued.

Mr. K. Shahul Hameed: May I know whether the Department has any objection to make Arabic as an examination subject for Muslims?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon: The question will be considered.

School Final Examination.

104. *Mr. M. K. Velu Pillai: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the percentage of passes in the recent School Final Examination from the Government Schools; and

(*b*) the percentage of passes from Aided Schools?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon: (*a*) Percentage of passes in Government Schools 56·5.

(*b*) Percentage of Private Schools 57·7.

Arabic Munshi Lower and Higher Examinations.

105. *Mr. K. Shahul Hameed: Will the Government be pleased to state why they have suspended the Arabic Munshi Lower and Higher Examinations for two years?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon: Paucity of candidates for the Arabic Munshi Examinations and the availability of qualified hands for appointment as Arabic Munshies.

Schools.

106. *Mr. M. K. Velu Pillai: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of schools abolished since 1114; and

(*b*) the number of aided schools of which the recoguition was withdrawn during the above period?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon: (*a*) 166.

(*b*) 156.

Mr. K. S. Joseph (*Mavelikara and Tiruvella* cum *Pathanamthitta*): May I know the reasons for abolishing so many schools and for withdrawing recognition from so many schools? Are they common reasons?

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